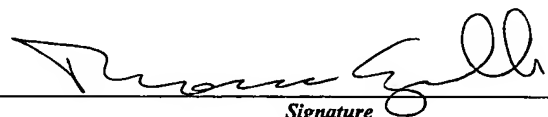
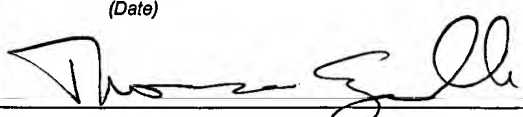


IPW
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3731

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)					Docket No. 15174	
Applicant(s): Katsumi Sasaki						
Application No. 10/029,627	Filing Date December 21, 2001	Examiner Vy Q. Bui	Customer No. 23389	Group Art Unit 3731	Confirmation No. 5083	
Invention: SURGICAL OPERATION INSTRUMENT Corres. and Mail <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">BOX AF</div>						
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:						
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.						
CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	
TOTAL CLAIMS	16 -	20 =	0 x	\$50.00	\$0.00	
INDEP. CLAIMS	3 -	4 =	0 x	\$200.00	\$0.00	
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00	
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00	
<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment.</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 19-1013/SSMP<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.</div></div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038.</div> <div>WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</div>						
 _____ <i>Signature</i>			Dated: December 20, 2004			
Thomas Spinelli Registration No.: 39,533			<div>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on <div style="text-align: center;">12/20/2004 (Date)</div><div style="text-align: center;"> _____ <i>Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence</i></div><div style="text-align: center;">Thomas Spinelli _____ <i>Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</i></div></div>			
CC:						



Corres. and Mail
BOX AF

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R.
§ 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3731**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Katsumi Sasaki	Examiner:	Vy Q. Bui
Serial No:	10/029,627	Art Unit:	3731
Filed:	December 21, 2001	Docket:	15174
For:	SURGICAL OPERATION INSTRUMENT	Dated:	December 20, 2004
Conf. No.:	5083		

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

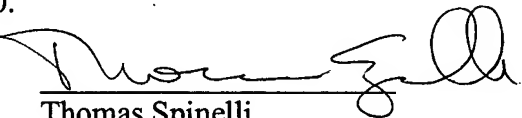
Sir:

In response to the Final Official Action dated September 21, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above-identified application in light of the following amendments and remarks:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: December 20, 2004


Thomas Spinelli